THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Tom W. Muir et al.

Serial No. : Not yet assigned

Filing Date : Herewith

Examiner : Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit : Not yet assigned

Entitled : METHODS OF LIGATING

EXPRESSED PROTEINS

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Our File No. 3440-P02436US3

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20213

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, please delete the first paragraph in its entirety and insert therefor the following replacement paragraph:

This application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. Application No. 09/191,890, filed November 13, 1998, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/065,391, filed November 13, 1997 and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/093,990, filed

July 24, 1998, the entire disclosures of all of which are incorporated by reference herein.

REMARKS

In accordance with the present amendment, the specification has been amended to contain a cross-reference to applicants' parent application, U.S. Application No. 09/191,890, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §120, which cross-reference also includes a claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) to applicants' related U.S. provisional patent applications filed November 13, 1997 and July 24, 1998.

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Marked-Up Copy of Specification Amendment

[This application claims the benefit of priority to U.S. Provisional Application, Serial Number 60/065,391, filed November 13, 1997 and U.S. Provisional Application, Serial Number 60/093,990, filed July 24, 1998, which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.]

This application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. Application No. 09/191,890, filed November 13, 1998, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/065,391, filed November 13, 1997 and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/093,990, filed July 24, 1998, the entire disclosures of all of which are incorporated by reference herein.